

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tatsuya HAYAKAWA et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/IB04/00166

Filed: July 19, 2005

Docket No.: 124515

For: KNEE PROTECTION APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

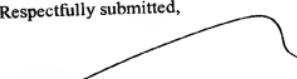
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference 4 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The references 1-4 were cited in an International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- 5. English language Abstracts of the non-English language references 3-7 are attached hereto.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /TW/

6. A computer-generated English language translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 3-7.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |   |                                   | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>124515 | APPLICATION NO.<br>New U.S. National Stage of<br>PCT/IB04/00166<br><b>10/1542643</b> |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |   |                                   | APPLICANTS<br>Tatsuya HAYAKAWA et al.             |                           |  |
|   |   |                                   | FILING DATE<br>July 19, 2005                      | GROUP                     |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |   |                                   |   |                           |  |
| EXAMINER INITIAL  |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                   | DATE  | NAME                      | CLASS  |
|   | 1 | 4,290,627                         | 9/22/1981   | CUMMING et al.            |  |
|   | 2 | 6,092,836                         | 7/25/2000   | SALSECOV                  |  |
|   |   |                                   |   |                           |  |
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|   |   |                                   |   |                           |  |
|   |   |                                   |   |                           |  |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |   |                                   |   |                           |  |
|   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                   | DATE  | COUNTRY                   | SUB CLASS  |
|   | 3 | JP A 2002-337653 w/ abst & transl | 11/27/2002  | JAPAN                     |  |
|   | 4 | JP A 2002-249016 w/ abst & transl | 9/3/2002  | JAPAN                     |  |
|   | 5 | JP A 10-315894 w/ abst & transl   | 12/2/1998   | JAPAN                     |  |
|   | 6 | JP A 05-208646 w/ abst & transl   | 8/20/1993   | JAPAN                     |  |
|   | 7 | JP A 11-321539 w/ abst & transl   | 11/24/1999  | JAPAN                     |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)  |   |                                   |   |                           |  |
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| EXAMINER /Timothy Wilhelm/  |   |                                   |   |                           | DATE CONSIDERED 03/17/2008   |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |   |                                   |   |                           |  |